

Vietnam War and to reflect upon their courage, strength, and love for the United States of America.

March 29, 2012 has been proclaimed Vietnam Veterans' Day in the State of New York, but it is important that we recognize our Veterans of the Vietnam War not only today but every day.

During the Vietnam War, of the more than 3.4 million Americans that were deployed, over 58,000 were killed, 153,000 were wounded, and over 2,000 remain missing in action.

It is important that we remind our Vietnam Veterans and their families that we are a grateful nation. Our country recognizes and appreciates the bravery and steadfastness of every American soldier. These are the men and women who risked their lives so our country remains free. It is because of their service that the United States of America remains the greatest nation in the history of the world.

The men and woman who served our country in the Vietnam War are shining examples of patriotism, strength, courage, and decency. It is with great pride and honor that I pause and reflect upon their sacrifice and thank our Vietnam Veterans for their dedicated service to the United States of America.

GRAND OPENING OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD HEALTH FACILITY IN OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the occasion of the grand opening of a new Oakland County, Michigan facility for Planned Parenthood, an organization that I stand with proudly in spirit, purpose and commitment.

Never before in recent history have we witnessed such feverish and brazen attacks on the reproductive and health care rights of women. Planned Parenthood, in particular, has been unfairly targeted in this war on women.

More than ever, our communities and families need organizations like Planned Parenthood. In fact, 97 percent of Planned Parenthood's services are basic, preventive health care, like annual exams, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV testing and counseling, and procedures to address pre-cancerous conditions of the cervix. Seventy-five percent of Planned Parenthood Midland and South-Michigan patients are women between the ages of 20 and 40, many of whom struggle without health insurance. Planned Parenthood is there for them.

I especially applaud the opening of this facility because for more than five years there has been no Title X family planning provider in Oakland County that serves everyone, regardless of ability to pay. In 2010, Planned Parenthood served 5,420 Oakland County patients who had to travel to other counties to receive basic and preventive health care. This means critical federal dollars were not being spent in Oakland County, an area of significant need. It is time for Oakland County to get its fair share of federal dollars, and for its citizens to receive much-needed reproductive health services in their own community.

In conclusion, we need to stop playing politics with women's health care. We need to get

our struggling families the services they need. This facility is a first step in the right direction for women and families in our region.

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE JACKSON WASHINGTON

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mrs. Christine Jackson Washington, who died last week. She was the wife of the deceased Father Paul Washington, the long time, much revered rector of the Episcopal Church of the Advocate, and an internationally recognized peace and rights activist.

But, Mrs. Washington was also a community change agent. She founded the non-profit Advocate Community Development Corporation, a neighborhood-based community development corporation that provided affordable housing and social services to the residents of North Philadelphia. The bedrock of her family, Mrs. Washington sang on the choir, taught Sunday school, and helped out at the church's food kitchen that fed more for more than 350 people daily.

However, beyond all of these responsibilities and accomplishments Mrs. Washington is remembered for his kindness, gentleness, and graciousness. We were all blessed to have known her and we cherish her memory.

HONORING UTE AND PATRICK GOGGINS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Ute and Patrick Goggins, longtime friends and constituents in Mill Valley, California. Ute and Patrick have been dedicated and conscientious members of our community since the late 1960s, and their joint passion for social justice and community service has made their active presence in the San Francisco Bay Area a true blessing.

Ute and Patrick were married March 27, 1962, in a lunchtime civil ceremony at San Francisco City Hall. The setting was appropriate for a couple who have always had a natural partnership. In the years since, Ute and Patrick have become important voices in the peace movement not only in the Bay Area, but worldwide. The Gogginses were at the forefront of opposition to the war in Vietnam, and eventually they were joined by their children in more recent demonstrations against war in Iraq.

Ute and Patrick have also contributed to a richer cultural environment, and to the idea that a stronger sense of community is a precursor to peace and justice. Patrick has spearheaded a number of local Irish cultural and historical associations, including the Irish-Mexican Association and the Irish Forum. Ute has long been a recognized local artist, and taught art at San Domenico School for over three decades.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of Ute and Patrick Goggins. We wish them many more years of happiness, collaboration, and companionship.

IN HONOR OF FRANCINE BLOCK

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Francine Block, who is receiving the Bucks County Women's History Month Award today. Since 1982, the award has been presented every year to a woman in the county who "has made the biggest difference." Candidates are active volunteers, role models and social advocates.

For 25 years Francine has worked eagerly in the fields of education and college admissions. Currently, she is the President of the American College Admissions Consultants. Formerly, Francine served as President of the Pennsylvania Association for College Admissions Counseling. Previously a high school English teacher in the United States and the United Kingdom, Francine has gone on to work with college applicants from all over the world. She has contributed to numerous books and has been interviewed by CNN, CNBC, NBC, the Wall Street Journal and Time Magazine.

Francine Block has also held many other critical posts in the field of education throughout her lifetime. She is the National Assembly Delegate to the National Association for College Admission Counseling, and previously was a member of the Admissions Advisory Board of Penn State University. Locally, she serves on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Bucks County and the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce. I had the honor to serve as Francine's Solicitor while she served as Chairman of the Board of the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce.

Francine Block has devoted her life to promoting higher education and making certain that parents and students have the best available resources to apply to colleges and universities. She is an inspiration to all of us, and it is my pleasure to honor her today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

THE DISABLED MILITARY CHILD PROTECTION ACT OF 2012

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Disabled Military Child Protection Act of 2012. To put it simply, this bill will permit military retirees the ability to place their self funded Survivor Benefit Plan into a Special Needs Trust to ensure their surviving dependent child's future.

This is an equity and fairness issue. Civilian children are allowed to create a Special Needs Trust for their permanently disabled children to ensure they receive care beyond the guardian's death but under current law, military personnel with severely disabled children are legally prohibited from establishing a Special